Cocoanut Cultivation.

57. *MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have taken any steps for pressing upon the attention of the Imperial Government the necessity of immediate help being given to Travancore cocoanut cultivators ; and

(*b*) if so, what ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A strong recommendation that adequate protection should be given to the cocoanut industry in the State by the enhancement of the import duties and tariff values of cocoanuts, copra, cocoanut oil, coir yarn and coir fibre.

MR. T.K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*) : May I know whether the Government is aware that the recommendation has not been given effect to?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, it has not been given effect to.

Port at Manakudy.

58. *MR. S. TIRAVIAM NADAR (*Agastisvaram*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have considered the question of opening a port at Manakudy in the Agastisvaram taluk ;

(*b*) if so, when it is to be opened ; and

(*c*) the purpose for which it is intended to be opened ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) and (*b*) Manakudy was declared a port in January 1934.

(*c*) For shipment of salt from the salt factories and for the landing and shipment of empty bags intended for or used in the transport of salt only.

Collection of top-ends and outer-slabs from Forest Timber.

59. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any arrangements are made by the Conservator of Forests for collecting and felling the top-ends and outer-slabs of timbers cut down in forests for firewood ;

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, what has been the income out of it for 1109 and 1110 M. E. ; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, why he has not done so ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) The cost of collecting top-ends and outer-slabs as fuel from the forests is so prohibitive that no one will care to collect them even if allowed on seigniorage rate or less.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : With regard to the answer to part (*a*), may I know from the Government whether any attempt was made by the Forest Department in collecting and felling the top-ends and outer-slabs of timbers cut down in forests for fire-wood ?

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